the Kerala Integrated Horticulture Development Programme has already been finalised and a contract has been entered into with the EEC.

Regularisation of Technician in CGWPRS

7105. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE; Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of technician and Graduate Grade apprentices is the Central Government Water and Power Research Station at Khadakwasla in Pune District in 1989, 1990 and 1991;

(b) the number out of them absorbed in regular service; and

(c) the measures being taken absorb those remaining apprentices the research station?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The number of technicians and graduate grade apprentices in the Central Water and Power Research Station. Khadakwasla, District Pune, in the year 1989, stood at 3 and 2 respectively. In the year 1990, there had been no technician but the Research Station had engaged 2 graduate grade apprentices during the year. In the year 1991, the Research Station had 4 technicians and 1 graduate grade apprentice.

(b)and (c). The existing rules in the Research Station do not permit any such absorption in regular service. However, subject to eligibility conditions, they may apply for the direct recruitment posts, whenever advertised.

Transfer of Power network to NPIC Project

7106. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to transfer all transmission network of power sector in the country to the National Power Transmission Corporation;

(b), if so, the rational behind such transfer; and

(c) the role of the C.E.A if any, in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The work relating transmission network will be taken over by National Power Transmission corporation (NPTC) in a phased manner from National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd., Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Damodar Valley Corporation, North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation, Nathpa-Jhakri Power Corporation, Bhakra Beas Management Board, Central Electricity Authority etc.

(b) The objective behind setting up of the NPTC is that the organisatiion would:

(i) help in pooling all the expertise in this field under one Central Organisation,

(ii) bring about economies of scale in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of EHV lines.

(iii) solve coordination problems that are presently encountered,

(iv) ensure better integrated grid operations and delivery of Central share of power from various Central Generating Stations to the